

REMARKS

Prior to this Reply, Claims 1-18 were pending. Through this Reply, Claims 7-13 have been amended, while Claims 19-24 have been added. No claims have been cancelled.

Accordingly, Claims 1-24 are now at issue in the present case.

I. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants note, with thanks, the Examiner's indication of the allowability of Claims 1-6 and 14-18. No amendments have been made to Claims 1-6 or 14-18. Accordingly, Applicants believe that Claims 1-6 and 14-18 are still in condition for allowance.

II. Drawings

The Examiner objected to the drawings under 37 CFR § 1.83(a). The Examiner noted that the drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Specifically, the Examiner indicated that the shield at least partially surrounding the write device set forth in Claims 7-13 must be shown in the drawings or the feature(s) should be cancelled from the claim(s). Furthermore, the Examiner required a proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings in order to avoid abandonment of the application.

In response, Applicants have cancelled the portion of Claim 7 that relates to a shield at least partially surrounding the write device. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the objection to the drawings has been overcome.

III. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner rejected Claims 7-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Specifically, the Examiner noted that Claim 7 sets forth “a shield at least partially surrounding the write device.” However, outside of Claim 7, there is no discussion or depiction in the disclosure of such an embodiment and the mere broad mention of such a structure in Claim 7 is not considered adequate to provide enablement in the present situation of how such a structure would be arranged and would operate, particularly when considering the differences in the extent and function of perpendicular write element structures versus perpendicular read element structures.

In response, Applicants have amended Claim 7, so that the language “a shield at least partially surrounding the write device” does not appear in the claim. Furthermore, Claim 7 now refers to a perpendicular magnetic head instead of a perpendicular magnetic write head. Claims 8-13 have also been amended, so that they refer to a magnetic head instead of a magnetic write head. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the rejection of Claims 7-13 has been overcome.

The Examiner also rejected Claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention because “the read device” lacks adequate antecedent basis. In response, Applicants have amended Claim 13 to properly introduce the read device. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the rejection of Claim 13 has been overcome.

The Examiner noted that Claims 7-13 would be allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs.

IV. New Claims

Applicants have added new Claims 19-24.

V. Additional Claim Fees

In determining whether additional claim fees are due, reference is made to the Fee Calculation Table (below).

Fee Calculation Table

	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest Number Previously Paid For	Present Extra	Rate	Additional Fee
Total (37 CFR 1.16(c))	24	Minus	20	= 4	x \$18 =	\$ 72.00
Independent (37 CFR 1.16(b))	5	Minus	4	= 1	x \$86 =	\$ 86.00

As set forth in the Fee Calculation Table (above), Applicants previously paid claim fees for twenty (20) total claims and for four (4) independent claims. Applicants hereby authorize the Commissioner to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2198 in the amount of \$158.00 for the presentation of four (4) total claims in excess of twenty (20) and one (1) independent claim in excess of four (4). In addition, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-2198 for any fee deficiencies associated with filing this paper.

VI. Conclusion

Applicants believe that the application appears to be in form for allowance. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number regarding any matters relating to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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